

2018-2019 School Year

SEVEN GENERATIONS EDUCATION INSTITUTE

ANNUAL REPORT



Culturally enriched
quality education for all.

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CEO'S MESSAGE



Boozhoo

Ogimaabines Indigoo
Goojjiing Nindoonjii
Bizhiw Nindoodem

Language, culture, traditions, and history are the foundational pieces to Seven Generations Education Institute's identity as an Indigenous Institute. Within our programs, our students are able to participate in these areas to help support their learning opportunities. You will see in the 2018-2019 annual report the successes of SGEI students as well as First Nations communities.

As we move towards full accreditation of our institute and credentialing of our programs, we will continue to build our programs around the language, culture, traditions and history of the Anishinaabeg. We will also continue to build upon the successes of each program by connecting students with opportunities to support pathways to further their lifelong learning journey.

Miigwech,
Brent Tookenay
Chief Executive Officer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mitaanjigamiing First Nation
Naomi Field, Chairperson

Couchiching First Nation
Peggy Loyie, Vice Chair

Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation
Clayton Windigo, Secretary//Treasurer

Seine River First Nation
Norman Girard, Board Member

Rainy River First Nations
Gary Medicine, Board Member

Big Grassy First Nation
Fred Archie, Board Member

Big Island First Nation
Daniel Big George, Board Member

Mikinaak Onigaming First Nation
Shawn Kelly, Board Member

Lac La Croix First Nation
Carol Geyschick, Board Member

Naicatchewenin First Nation
Raechel Snowball, Board Member

MISSION

Seven Generations Education Institute is dedicated to excellence in lifelong learning and empowerment through language and culture, by providing community-based and student-centered learning opportunities for everyone.

VISION

Seven Generations Education Institute is the leader in providing sustainable, high quality education and training opportunities, which respect our Anishinaabe language and culture, support present needs, and embrace our future of lifelong learning.



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

LEADERSHIP & GROWTH

Seven Generations Education Institute will be recognized as a leader in Indigenous education and research with credentials in all program areas.

LANGUAGE & CULTURE

Seven Generations Education Institute will be grounded in Mino-Bimaadiziwin, Anishinaabe teachings and world views, and be a recognized centre for language and cultural learning and research.

LEARNER SUPPORT & ACCESS

Seven Generations Education Institute is committed to the success and well-being of all learners through holistic supports and expanded access for learning opportunities through community outreach, services closer to home, and technology.

FINANCIAL STABILITY

Seven Generations Education Institute will have stable and sufficient funding to support and sustain core institutional functions, growth, and increased access for learners as a credential granting education institution.

“As I look out in the crowd before me, I sense a wave of emotions from everyone present. For family and friends, the sense of pride you have in your graduate’s accomplishments is immeasurable.”

Karen Jensen
Post-Secondary Valedictorian





LEADERSHIP & GROWTH

Seven Generations Education Institute will be recognized as a leader in Indigenous education and research.

- Develop and advance a credential granting strategy for all post-secondary programs and training
- Expand research and evaluation capacity and partnership opportunities to support Indigenous learning and programming
- Increase access to education and training for learners
- Become the education institution of choice
- Expand our facilities as community hubs
- Establish long-term strategic partnerships and relationships that expand academic and training program opportunities
- Develop and implement a staff and faculty compensation and recruitment strategy
- Implement a SGEI brand strategy

Post Secondary Student Support Funding

208 students (a 23.8 per cent increase from the previous year) received post-secondary funding totaling \$1.9 million. Twenty-one post-secondary students received academic and incentive scholarships totaling \$25,000.

Media Relations Coordinator

To assist with marketing, online communications and brand development, Seven Generations Education Institute hired a full-time Media Relations Coordinator.

New Facility

In March 2019, SGEI's Fort Frances Secondary, Post-Secondary, Administrative and Anishinaabemodaa staff moved into a new facility, enabling all Fort Frances educational services to be located in one central, communal space.

FNSSP Partnerships

The First Nation Student Success Program (FNSSP) expanded partnerships with Fair Chance Learning, Microsoft, SayITFirst, OISE and local school boards to provide unique and enriching opportunities to the students at each school.

Hour of Code

Select FNSSP program schools participated in Hour of Code, a one-hour introduction to computer science designed to demystify code.

Pre-Employment Training Partnerships

Training staff partnered with Manitou Forest Products to deliver the Sawmill Technician program to two sets of employees. Training staff also delivered two community-based Essential Skills programs with Grassy Narrows First Nation and Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation.

Post-Secondary Partnerships

SGEI post-secondary Early Childhood Education programming in Shoal Lake #39 and Personal Support Worker (PSW) programming in Dryden. Patricia Gardens partnered with SGEI to provide classroom space for the PSW program and hired our PSW grads following program completion. SGEI also began pursuing a partnership with Fort William to provide post-secondary education in the community.

All Nation Nurses Entry Program

SGEI secured a memorandum of understanding (MOU) from Lakehead University to offer the All Nation Nurses Entry Program, a nine-month access program aimed at encouraging local Indigenous individuals to pursue careers in nursing.

KEY
ACCOMPLISHMENTS



LANGUAGE & CULTURE

Seven Generations Education Institute will be grounded in Mino-Bimaadiziwin, Anishinaabe teachings and world views, and be a recognized centre for language and cultural learning and research.

- Employ Elders in Residence in all SGEI campuses and learning centres
- Use our Indigenous ways of knowing, learning and teaching to support learners
- Enrich the experience of learners, staff and faculty through our history, language and culture
- Expand our credentialed Anishinaabemowin programs and Indigenous studies programs
- Expand the use of technology in the delivery of language and culture programs
- Implement land-based learning for learners, staff and faculty
- Enhance and expand cultural sensitivity and cultural competency workshops and training

Land-Based Learning

This year, Seven Generations Education Institute secondary school facilitated the Indigenous Identity and Relationship to Land dual-credit program.

Learning Bird

Seven Generations Secondary School partnered with Learning Bird, an online learning platform that supports grades 6-12 students by delivering engaging digital lessons. Through this partnership and with the help of local elders and community members, SGEI developed culturally enriched educational content and lesson plans that adhere to provincial curriculum standards. Resources developed included videos, Anishinaabe stories, cultural ceremony activities and traditional teachings.

Anishinaabe Engagement Training

SGEI's Cultural and Language Facilitator partnered with organizations to deliver a full-day customized training involving Anishinaabe teachings, treaty history and law, Anishinaabemowin revitalization, sovereignty and self-determination, traditional teachings, and more. SGEI provided training for:

- Lake of the Woods Medical Centre
- New Gold
- Rainy River District School Board
- Rainy River District Catholic School Board
- The City of Kenora (Mayor and Council)
- Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
- Local Crown judges and attorneys
- Human rights attorneys

Anishinaabemowin Ando-gikendamowin for Early Childhood Educators

The Anishinaabemodaa initiative held two regional professional development sessions surrounding language learning and instruction with Early Childhood Educators, teachers and partnering daycare workers. Each session welcomed an average of 40 participants. Following the sessions, Anishinaabemodaa staff worked with ECEs in their centres on Anishinaabemowin topics tailored to their interests.

Language Credits

Fort Frances High School students can now register for university-level Grade 12 Anishinaabemowin credits. These courses are now eligible as university prerequisites, further enabling Anishinaabemowin learners to pursue higher education.

KEY
ACCOMPLISHMENTS



LEARNER SUPPORT & ACCESS

Seven Generations Education Institute is committed to the success and well-being of all learners through holistic supports and expanded access for learning opportunities through community outreach, services closer to home, and technology.

- Provide access to “wrap around” and support services for learners at campuses including guidance counselling, access to residences and other housing options, in-house child care, and transportation support
- Establish a community presence and sub-offices in communities served by SGEI
- Develop technology-based program capacity and resources
- Implement proactive outreach and student recruitment programs
- Promote a strong brand reputation for linking training with employment

Google Classroom

Seven Generations Secondary staff developed courses including OLC40, PPL30, HIP40, ENG4C, NBV3C, DCO30, IDC30, IDC40 and PLAR and uploaded them to Google Classroom, an online tool that facilitates online educational programming delivery. Google Classroom enables flexible delivery, synchronous and asynchronous online sessions, improved engagement and facilitation, and a greater reach for distant learners.

Dual-Credit Courses

This year, Seven Generations Education Institute facilitated Photography and Indigenous Identity and Relationship to Land dual-credit programs. Dual credit programs are intended to assist disengaged and under-achieving secondary school students with post-secondary credits while completing their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). Providing students with this opportunity increases the chances of a successful transition to college and/or apprenticeship programs.

Student Supports

SGEI students participated in a variety of activities and events throughout the 2018-2019 school year including complimentary yoga classes, free meals courtesy of SGEI's breakfast and lunch programs, Fall Harvest, and Bowling. Students also had opportunities to attend various Life Skills, Skills Link and computer workshops and hear from motivational speakers.

Internet and Network Upgrades

The SGEI Fort Frances Campus received network and internet connectivity upgrades to improve staff and student web access.

Student Lab

The SGEI Fort Frances campus received Microsoft software upgrades, enabling students to use the most proficient software while in school.

FNSSP IT Supports

FNSSP IT support personnel provided tech support to all five program schools including setup and maintaining desktop computers, chromebooks, iPads, printers, SMART boards, and the Trillium student information system. FNSSP also upgraded networks at four of five of the program schools with new switches and routers.

Waking up Ojibwe

The Anishinaabemodaa staff launched the Waking up Ojibwe website, allowing visitors access to resources and information regarding the initiative. Language kits, complete with audio and customizable resources, are created and stored on the website for all language learners to access. Seventeen Anishinaabemowin books illustrated and translated by the Anishinaabemodaa initiative have been recorded by fluent speakers and uploaded to the Waking up Ojibwe website for community members to access.

Community Family Nights

The Anishinaabemodaa initiative held three family night programs in Couchiching First Nation, Naincatchewenin First Nation and at the United Native Friendship Centre in Fort Frances. Families have the opportunity to learn Anishinaabemowin through play in their own communities.

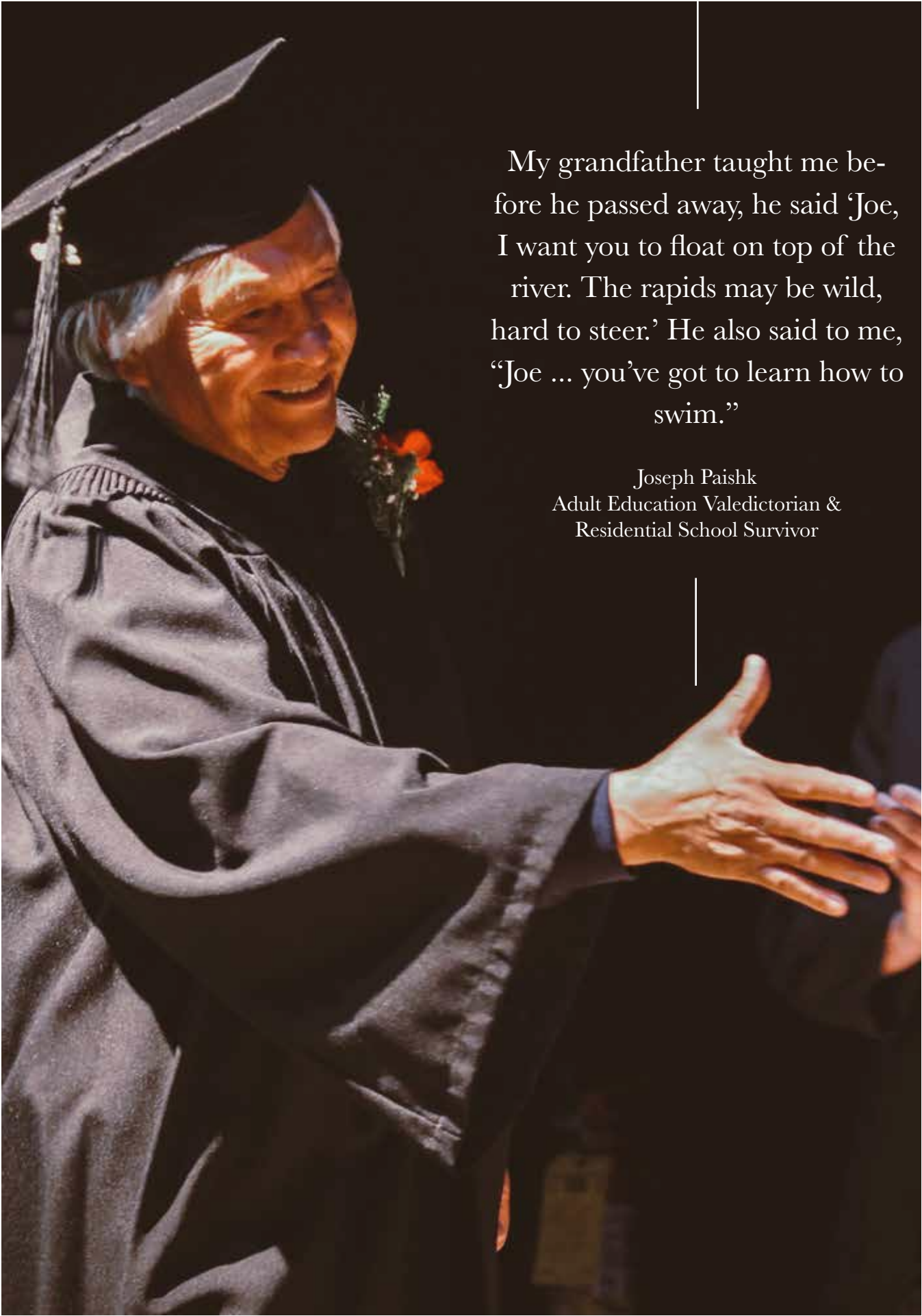
KEY
ACCOMPLISHMENTS



FINANCIAL STABILITY

Seven Generations Education Institute will have stable and sufficient funding to support and sustain core institutional functions, growth, and increased access for learners as a credential granting education institution.

- Establish language and culture as a core funding component
- Long term, secure funding agreements with federal and provincial governments
- Diversify and expand non-government revenue sources
- Support program growth and sustainability using information, data, research and evaluation
- Invest in and leverage funding to support connectivity in communities
- Mobilize political support around a strategy for long term secure funding
- Dedicated capacity for funding proposal development and advocacy



My grandfather taught me before he passed away, he said ‘Joe, I want you to float on top of the river. The rapids may be wild, hard to steer.’ He also said to me, “Joe ... you’ve got to learn how to swim.”

Joseph Paishk
Adult Education Valedictorian &
Residential School Survivor

CLASS OF 2019

Secondary

Seven Generations Secondary School is comprised of 18 teachers, one administrative assistant and one receptionist. SGEI delivers quality secondary programming at 18 sites throughout Treaty Three. During the 2018-2019 school year, SGEI graduated a total of 31 students from the following locations:

- One from each of the following communities: Naicatchewenin, Wabauskang, and Wabigoon
- Two from each of the following communities: Couchiching, Nigigoonsiminikaaning, Washagamis Bay, Wauzhushk Onigum, Fort William, Pic Mobert, and Gull Bay
- Three from Mitaanjigamiing
- Eleven from Nokiiwin-Thunder Bay

Adult Education

Seven Generations Education Institute, in partnership with the Keewatin Patricia District School Board (KPDSB) provides adult learners in the KPDSB jurisdiction with the opportunity to complete their OSSD on a full-time or part-time basis. During the 2018-2019 school year, SGEI serviced a total of 600 adult education students at five locations. Below is the total number of 2019 graduates

- Fifteen from Dryden
- Twenty-four from Kenora
- Four from Sioux Lookout
- Seven from Red Lake

Post-Secondary

Graduation 2019 was the organization's largest to date, with more than 520 guests gathering to celebrate 104 post-secondary graduates in 16 different programs.

Pre-Employment Training

During 2018-2019 school year, SGEI's Training staff in Fort Frances and Kenora facilitated 20 programs for 177 participants. Of those 177, 77 participants secured full-time employment and 30 pursued secondary or post-secondary education. Training programs facilitated included:

- Construction Craft Worker
- Common Core
- Driver's Training x 2
- Health and Safety
- Hospitality x4
- Line Cook x2
- Maaji-anokiidaa ("Let's all begin to work")
- Upgrading x2
- Pre-Employment Training x2
- Computer Applications
- Community based
 - Essential Skills x2
 - Sawmill Technician x2

OTHER NOTABLE SUCCESSES

Post-Secondary Student Support Program

The Seven Generations Secondary School staff participated in two professional development (PD) sessions on the Ministry of Education's virtual learning tools and resources. Topics included:

- Technology Enabled Learning and Teaching
- D2L
- E-Learning
- Blended Learning & Hybrid Courses
- Ontario Educational Resource Bank (OERB)

Secondary School E-Learning & Curriculum Development

Seven Generations Secondary staff developed or revised the following courses during the 2018-2019 school year:

- Junior PLAR
- OLC40 - Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course
- ENG4C - Grade 12 English (College Prep)
- PPL30 - Healthy Active Living
- HIP40 - Personal Life Management
- NBE3C - Grade 11 Understanding Contemporary First Nation, Metis and Inuit Voices (College Prep)
- ENG3C - Grade 11 English (College Prep)
- DCO30 - Creating Opportunities Through Co-op
- IDC30 - Grade 11 Interdisciplinary Studies (Open)
- IDC40 - Grade 12 Interdisciplinary Studies (Open)

Technology and Media

In the 2018-2019 school year, IT:

- Upgraded all server random access memory (RAM)
- Completed software updates on all servers
- Upgraded Accpac – financial software
- Installed new email server for more space and stability
- Researched and planned for move to new facility
- Purchased furniture and equipment for new facility
- Moved network to new facility

Microsoft Promo

Select FNSSP students and teachers were featured in a promotional video produced in partnership with Microsoft.

Language Strategy Gets a New Name

The language revitalization partnership, formerly referred to as the Language Strategy, updated its name to Anishinaabemodaa meaning Let's speak Ojibwe to one another, upon council of the Gigidiziiminaanig (elder's committee).



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